

May 25, 1976

## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S 7901

STAT

## CIA ISSUES NEW REGULATION ON CONTACT WITH MISSIONARIES ABROAD

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, on December 15, 1975, I introduced legislation prohibiting Federal intelligence agency contact with missionaries and clergymen. That legislation was prompted by the failure of the executive branch to prohibit these contacts despite their revelation in disturbing press accounts last summer. Those stories reported, and former CIA Director Colby confirmed, that the CIA has made it a regular practice over the years to use missionaries, clergy, and members of religious organizations for intelligence purposes. As I said at the introduction of my bill, S. 2784, I believe such collaboration quite rightly tarnishes the image of the United States in foreign countries, prostitutes the church, and violates the first amendment's separation of church and state.

At the time of the bill's introduction, our distinguished majority leader, Senator MANSFIELD, expressed his approval of the idea, and Senator CRANSTON later joined as a cosponsor of the bill. I am grateful for their support.

After the introduction of my bill I continued to correspond with CIA Director George Bush in hopes of reaching a satisfactory solution to the problem. Due to his cooperation and concern for the fundamental principles involved, the Central Intelligence Agency has issued a new regulation restricting agency contacts with the clergy, missionaries, and members of religious organizations. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of that new regulation be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the regulation was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

## NEW CIA REGULATION

## (M) CLERGYMEN AND MISSIONARIES

In light of the special Constitutional concern with church-state relationships, CIA shall establish no secret, paid or unpaid contractual relationship with any American clergyman or missionary. This restriction applies to any person whether or not ordained who is sent out by a mission or church organization to preach, teach, heal, or proselyte. In addition, American church groups will not be funded nor used as funding cutouts for CIA purposes. The CIA will, however, continue to welcome information volunteered by American clergymen or missionaries. If, in the determination of a senior Agency official, such individuals might possess important foreign intelligence information, the Agency might initiate contact so as to afford an opportunity for channeling this information to the Government. Such initiatives, however, shall not be taken abroad.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I emphasize that the regulation broadly defines the role of a missionary, prohibits any secret paid or unpaid contractual relationship with any American minister or missionary, and prohibits the CIA from initiating contact with clergy or missionaries abroad for intelligence purposes. The prohibition is essentially the same as that pertaining to contact with Peace Corps volunteers and Fulbright scholars.

The new regulation also applies to

Americans performing missionary work for organizations which are technically not controlled by denominational or interdenominational church bodies, but whose ultimate sponsorship comes from religious organizations. This is made clear in Mr. Bush's letter time of April 12. I ask unanimous consent that that letter and other correspondence pertinent to this new development be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I am very pleased that Mr. Bush recognized the special problems caused by CIA contact with missionaries abroad, and has taken this remedial action. I trust that the churches and missionary organizations will also remain attentive to the difficulties association with U.S. intelligence agencies can cause, and will direct their workers to refrain from contact with these agencies.

Because of the new CIA regulation, Mr. President, I do not intend to press for committee action on my bill.

## EXHIBIT 1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,  
Washington, D.C., May 14, 1976.

HON. MARK HATFIELD,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MARK: I was very pleased to receive your letter of 5 May 1976 summarizing our understanding regarding CIA relationships with American clergymen and missionaries abroad.

Your offer to withdraw your legislation is especially appreciated, and I believe our agreement in this area has led to an effective and equitable resolution of the problem. I do not feel any further announcement on my part is needed at this time.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of the recently implemented CIA regulation outlining the Agency's policy on relationships with American clergymen and missionaries. As you can see, this regulation reflects the understanding reached with you that the CIA shall not establish any secret contractual relationships with any American clergyman or missionary, and henceforth shall not take the initiative abroad to provide a channel for such individuals to convey information to the Government.

I trust that this fully covers any remaining questions you might have regarding this important matter. Your cooperation in resolving this issue is most appreciated by myself personally and on behalf of the Agency. I look forward to working closely with you on other matters of mutual concern.

With warm regards,  
Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH,  
Director.

U.S. SENATE,  
Washington, D.C., May 5, 1976.

HON. GEORGE BUSH,  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR GEORGE: Thank you for your letter of April 12 following up on our discussion of April 8 concerning CIA involvement with clergymen and missionaries abroad.

I believe the ideas expressed in our discussion and stated as new CIA policy in your letter will resolve our differences and protect the special relationship missionaries have with the people they serve. I am pleased that you have seen fit to prohibit CIA initiation of contact with American missionaries

action in reaching  
Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

MARK O. HATFIELD,  
U.S. Senator.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,  
Washington, D.C., April 12, 1976.

HON. MARK HATFIELD,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MARK: I found our conversation on Thursday regarding CIA contacts with the clergy and missionaries very useful. As is the case with almost any written formulation of policy, my 11 February 1976 statement on this subject can lead to reasonable questions regarding precise definitions, scope and intent.

As I said in my earlier letter to you of 6 April 1976, we do not intend to define "missionary" in a narrow sense but to include anyone sent abroad "to preach, teach, heal, or proselyte." Responding to your concern about Americans performing similar work for organizations which are technically not controlled by denominational or interdenominational church bodies, I would include them in our policy provided their ultimate sponsorship comes from religious organizations.

In regard to CIA initiatives to request an American clergyman or missionary to supply foreign intelligence information on a voluntary basis, I shall provide in our implementing regulations that CIA will not take any such initiative abroad.

In light of the special constitutional concern with church-state relationships, I believe it appropriate for this Agency to limit its contacts with American clergymen and missionaries to this extent. At the same time, it leaves them the right to volunteer information to their government on an individual basis, each as his own conscience dictates.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH,  
Director.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,  
Washington, D.C., April 6, 1976.

HON. MARK HATFIELD,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MARK: Thank you for your letter of 17 March 1976 seeking further clarification of this Agency's policy regarding contacts with clergy and employees of religious or church-related organizations.

I share your interest in assuring that the Agency's policy in this area is clearly understood by the Congress and the American public. This Agency's position on your bill, S. 2784, is being coordinated within the Executive Branch prior to transmittal to Chairman Stennis, but I do want to respond to the specific questions you raised in your 17 March letter.

The term "contractual relationship" is used to apply to any regularized, specific